(c) if so, what conditions the private agency would be required to fulfil for starting the channel for educational purposes?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) (a) A Working Group has been constituted in the Department of Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development to recommend measures for rapid expansion of Open Learning/Distance Education, including operationalisation of educational satellite TV Channel. Further action can be taken on receipt of report of the Working Group.

(b) There is no proposal to allot a channel to private agencies for this purpose.

(c) Does not arise.

Government proposal for electoral reforms

*266. SHRI S.S. SURJEWALA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to effect changes in the present electoral system of the country;

(b) whether Government propose to hold wide ranging discussions on the issue of electoral reforms; and

(c) whether Government propose to convene an all-party meeting to arrive at a consensus?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) No, Sir.

(b)and (c) The Government has already discussed certain proposals on electoral reforms with leaders of various political parties in a meeting held on 23.7.96 in which consensus emerged in respect of certain proposals.

Omkar Goswami Committee Report

*267.SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA:
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that almost three years after the Omkar Goswami Committee gave its report on industrial sickness, Government have not done anything substantial to implement its recommendations;

(b) the recommendations on which some action has been taken and the ones on which no action has been taken; and

(c) by when this report/recommendations are likely to be fully implemented?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) The recommendations of the Committee on Industrial Sickness and Corporate Restructuring headed by Dr. Omkar Goswami have been under active consideration of the Government. The recommendations of the Committee were also discussed in the meetings of the Consultative Committee of the Ministry of Finance. However, no consensus has yet emerged on these recommendations.

It may be added that the Government have initiated a total review of Sick Industrial Companies (Speical Provisions) Act, 1985 (SICA) and the working of the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) with the intention to bring a new Bill in the Parliament. The recommendations of the Goswami Committee will also be kept in view while preparing the new Bill.

तपेदिक (टी०बी०) के कारण होने वाली मौतें

*268. श्री नरेश यादव: क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) देश में प्रति वर्ष तपेदिक से मरने वाले रोगियों की संख्या कितनी है;

(ख) क्या इस रोग के कारणों का पता लगाने हेतु कभी कोई सर्वेक्षण किया गया है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो सरकार इसके निवारण के लिए क्या उपाय करने का विचार रखती है।?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय के राज्यमंत्री (श्री सलीम इकबाल शेरवानी): (क) और (ख) सीमित सर्वेक्षणों के अनुसार देश में हर वर्ष क्षयरोग के कारण लगभग 5 लाख रोगियों की मृत्यु हो जाती है।

क्षयरोग "माइकोबेक्टीरियम ट्यूबरकुलोसिस" नामक एक विशेष बैसिलि से होता है जिसका पता 100 वर्ष से भी पहले लगाया गया था। संक्रमण का स्रोत मानव थूक है। निर्धनता, अत्यधिक भीड़-भाड़, संवातन की ठीक व्यवस्था न होना, भुखमरी कुपोषण, तम्बाकू-धूम्रपान, अल्कोहल, कीर्टकोस्टेरायड, औषधों अथवा एच०आई०वी० संक्रमण के कारण शारीरिक प्रतिरक्षा का दमन सक्रिय रोग के विकास और फैलने को बढ़ावा देता है।

(ग) क्षयरोग को नियंत्रित करने हेतु 1962 से देश में केन्द्र और राज्यों के बीच 50:50 के हिस्से के आधार पर एक केन्द्रीय प्रायोजित योजना के रूप में जिला क्षयरोग केन्द्रों के जरिए एक राष्ट्रीय क्षयरोग नियंत्रण कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वित किया जा रहा है। क्षयरोग के कारण होने वाली निवारणीय रूग्णता और मृत्यु को कम करने और कम से कम 80 प्रतिशत की रोग मुक्ति दर हासिल करने के लिए एक संशोधित कार्यनीति अपनाई गई है। इस कार्यनीति को विश्व बैंक सहायता से 16 परियोजना स्थलों में अजमाया जा रहा है। इस कार्यनीति के कार्यान्वयन का देश भर में चरणबद्ध ढंग से विस्तार किया जा रहा है।

N.R.I. remittances channelised through illegal transactions

*269. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large amount of N.R.I. remittances to the country are channelised through illegal transactions which has an adverse bearing on the foreign exchange earning of the country;

(b) if so, the details of earnings from N.R.I.s. and the amount involved in illegal transactions; and

(c) the steps taken to check growing malpractices in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) while there has been a steady increase, as reported by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), in the amount of remittances by non-resident Indians (NRIs) through formal channels, instances of illegal remittances by NRIs have also come to the notice of the Enforcement Directorate. Details of remittances through authorised channels are as follows:

(US $ million)

Year	Private Transfers	Foreign Investment (NRIs)	Net inflows under Deposit Schemes
1992-93	2,773	61	2,001
1993-94*	3,825	217	940
1994-95*	6,200	442	847
1995-96*	6,150	668	1,365

*Quick estimates

No reliable estimates of the amount involved in illegal transactions are available. However, 956 cases involving an amount of Rs. 404.73 crores (approx.) were detected by the Enforcement Directorate during 1995.

Government endeavours to curb malpractices in this regard through constant vigil and preventive action by its enforcement agencies. NRIs are also being encouraged to remit their earnings through legal channels by giving them various incentives.

दस शीर्ष पर्यटक स्थल

*270. **श्री अजीत जोगी:** क्या पर्यटन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) देश के उन दस शीर्ष पर्यटक स्थलों के नाम क्या हैं, जिनकी गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान अधिकतम विदेशी पर्यटकों ने यात्रा की है;

(ख) देश के उन दस शीर्ष पर्यटक स्थलों के नाम क्या हैं, जिनकी उक्त अवधि के दौरान अधिकतम भारतीय पर्यटकों ने यात्रा की है; और

(ग) इन स्थानों पर पर्यटन को बढ़ावा देने के लिए क्या विशेष पहल की जा रही है?